



Michigan Office of the Auditor General REPORT SUMMARY

Performance Audit

Wayne State University

Report Number:
33-230-02

Released:
February 2004

Wayne State University is a national research university with an urban teaching and service mission. It has been designated as a Carnegie Research Extensive University since 1994 and has been accredited in whole by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools since 1956. Wayne State University offers its various programs through its 13 colleges and schools and numerous centers and institutes.

Audit Objectives:

1. To assess the effectiveness of the University's monitoring of its research program and academic and related programs provided to students.
2. To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the University's use of resources allocated to research and support of academic and related programs.

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Audit Conclusions:

1. The University was generally effective in its monitoring of its research program and academic and related programs provided to students.
2. The University was generally effective and efficient in its use of resources allocated to research and support of academic and related programs.

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Reportable Conditions:

The University did not have a University-wide policy addressing repetitive course enrollments and excessive marks of "X" (insufficient work) and "W" (official withdrawal) and their impact on undergraduate student academic progress and efficient use of resources. Also, the University generally did not monitor repetitive enrollments and excessive marks of "X" and "W" and identify and counsel those undergraduate students found not to be making satisfactory academic progress (Finding 1).

The University needs to update its general education (GE) competency requirements and the courses and examinations used for satisfying these requirements (Finding 2).

The University needs to establish controls to ensure that undergraduate students satisfy GE competency requirements within established time frames (Finding 3).

The University should periodically evaluate the effectiveness of its Division of Community Education (DCE) Program (Finding 4).

DCE Program administrators should implement appropriate measures to improve selected aspects of the DCE Program (Finding 5).

The University needs to improve selected aspects of its intellectual property management practices (Finding 6).

The University's Office of Admissions needs to implement measures to improve the timeliness of its transfer credit evaluation process (Finding 7).

The University needs to ensure tuition parity between its resident and nonresident students (Finding 8).

The University needs to reduce its deferred maintenance backlog (Finding 9).

The University should modify its grading policy relative to its marks of "I" (incomplete) and "X" (insufficient work) (Finding 10).

The University had not established an effective control for enforcing course-based prerequisites (Finding 11).

The University needs to strengthen its controls for granting exceptions to its tuition and fee assessment and enrollment policies (Finding 12).

The University should regularly monitor and assess its classroom utilization (Finding 13).

The University did not obtain Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee approval for non-State-funded capital outlay projects exceeding \$1 million before proceeding with capital outlay construction (Finding 14).

The University did not allocate any indirect costs to its auxiliary activities (Finding 15).

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Agency Response:

Our audit report contains 15 findings and 16 corresponding recommendations. The University's preliminary response indicated that it agreed with 11 recommendations, partially agreed with 4 recommendations, and disagreed with 1 recommendation.

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A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: www.state.mi.us/audgen/



Michigan Office of the Auditor General
201 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Thomas H. McTavish, C.P.A.
Auditor General

Scott M. Strong, C.P.A., C.I.A.
Deputy Auditor General